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ACTION AF-01

INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-17	AID-01	CIAE-00	C-01	OASY-00	DOEE-00
	EUR-01	OIGO-01	HA-09	H-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-16
	L-01	ADS-00	NRRC-00	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OIC-02	OMB-01
	PA-01	PM-01	PRS-01	P-01	RP-10	SNP-00	SP-00
	SR-00	SS-00	TRSE-00	T-00	USIE-00	FMP-00	SSD-01

/067W

-----1FD302 311502Z /38

O 311450Z JAN 94
FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5627
INFO AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY KAMPALA
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION GENEVA
USDAO YAOUNDE CM
USDAO PARIS
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE//ECJ4-SA//
DIA WASHDC//CH-4//

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DEPT FOR AF/C, AF/RA, AND PM/ISP

ROME FOR FODAG

GENEVA FOR RMA

E.O. 12356:N/A
TAGS: MCAP, PGOV, PREF, EAID, PREL, PINS, PARM, RW
SUBJECT: RWANDA'S LANDMINE PROBLEM

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: JOHN L. MILLS
DATE/CASE ID: 20 NOV 2002 200003723

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REF: STATE 384203

1. SUMMARY. RWANDA HAS 50,000 UNCLEARED LANDMINES, LOCATED IN RURAL FARM COMMUNITIES IN THE NORTHERN PREFECTURES. RETURN OF DISPLACED PERSONS AND REFUGEES TO THESE AREAS COULD DRAMATICALLY INCREASE THE NUMBER OF INJURED AND KILLED BY MINE EXPLOSIONS. UN PEACEKEEPING FORCE CURRENTLY DEVELOPING A MINE CLEARANCE STRATEGY WITH GOR/RPF MILITARY. U.S. ASSISTANCE ASKED FOR IN PROVIDING MINE DETECTION EQUIPMENT AND SHORT TERM CIVIC AWARENESS PROGRAMS. END SUMMARY.
 50,000 UNCLEARED ANTI-TANK AND ANTI-PERSONNEL LANDMINES

2. ACCORDING TO THE CLASSIFICATION CATEGORIES PROVIDED IN REFTTEL, RWANDA HAS AN EXTREMELY SEVERE MINE PROBLEM WITH AN ESTIMATED 50,000 UNCLEARED LANDMINES, LAID DURING RWANDA'S CIVIL WAR FROM 1990-1993. ACCORDING TO MILITARY SOURCES FROM BOTH SIDES, THE GOR AND RPF LAID BOTH ANTI PERSONNEL AND ANTI TANK MINES IN THE NORTH OF THE COUNTRY, NEAR THE UGANDAN BORDER, WHERE MOST OF THE
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 HEAVY FIGHTING TOOK PLACE. AN INVENTORY OF THE TYPES OF MINES USED FOLLOWS:

ANTI PERSONNEL MINES

TYPE	DESCRIPTION	MODEL YR	COUNTRY OF ORIGIN
AP.MI8AL	FRAGMENTATION	N/A	UNITED STATES
AP.POMZ-2	FRAGMENTATION	1958	RUSSIA
AP.PMD-7TS	WOODEN	1946	RUSSIA
AP.PMN	BAKELLITE	1958	RUSSIA
AP	PLASTIC	1957	KOREA
AP.M35	PLASTIC	N/A	FRANCE
AP.TS.50	PLASTIC	N/A	FRANCE
AP.M409	PLASTIC	1957	RUSSIA
AP.NR409	PLASTIC, BLAST	N/A	ITALY
AP.PR.B M35	PLASTIC, BLAST	N/A	BELGIUM
AP.PMD.6	WOODEN	N/A	RUSSIA
AP.MR413	SCHRAPNEL	N/A	BELGIUM
AP.M2A3	FRAGMENTATION	N/A	UNITED STATES

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AP.M18.AL SCHRAPNEL N/A SOUTH AFRICA

ANTI TANK MINES

AT.TM46	METALLIC	1946	RUSSIA
AT.TM57	METALLIC	1957	RUSSIA
AT.TMD-B	WOODEN	1945	RUSSIA
AT.M15	METALLIC	1944	UNITED STATES
AT.PR8 M3	PLASTIC	N/A	BELGIUM

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AT.M6A2 METALLIC N/A UNITED STATES
AT.TM.57 METALLIC N/A RUSSIA
NO GOVERNMENT OR RPF GROUPS ARE BELIEVED TO BE LAYING
MINES CURRENTLY AND NEITHER GROUP ADMITS TO HAVING MINE
STOCKPILES. NEITHER THE GOR OR RPF HAVE REPORTEDLY
BOUGHT ANY LANDMINES EITHER SINCE THE SIGNING OF THE
PEACE ACCORDS.

SOURCES OF SUPPLY AND LANDMINE USAGE DURING THE WAR

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-----1FD331 311504Z /38

O 311450Z JAN 94
FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI
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INFO AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

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AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY KAMPALA
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION GENEVA
USDAO YAOUNDE CM
USDAO PARIS
USCINCEUR VAHINGEN GE//ECJ4-SA//
DIA WASHDC//CH-4//

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ROME FOR FODAG

GENEVA FOR RMA

E.O. 12356:N/A
TAGS: MCAF, PGOV, PREF, EAID, PREL, PINS, PARM, RW
SUBJECT: RWANDA'S LANDMINE PROBLEM

3. THE GOR - LACKING LOCAL PRODUCTION CAPABILITIES -
REPORTEDLY PURCHASED LANDMINES DURING THE WAR FROM SOUTH
AFRICAN AND EGYPTIAN SOURCES; PAYMENT FOR THE MINES WAS
TO BE IN TEA, EXPLAINING WHY THE RPF LAID SEVERAL
LANDMINES IN SOME OF THE TEA PLANTATIONS IN THE NORTH TO
DISRUPT PAYMENT OPTIONS. OTHER ALLEGED SOURCES OF SUPPLY
WERE THROUGH BELGIAN AND LIBYAN ARMS DEALERS.

4. BOTH THE RPF AND GOR USED MINES DURING THE WAR TO
LIMIT MOVEMENT OF VEHICLES AND FOR PROTECTION OF THEIR
DEFENSIVE POSITIONS. SOME MINING ALSO OCCURRED ALONG THE
UGANDAN BORDER TO STOP THE MOVEMENT OF VEHICLES AT THE
BORDER. ACCORDING TO GOR AND RPF MINE MAPS, MINES WERE
LAID IN RURAL FARMLANDS AND TEA PLANTATIONS PRIMARILY IN
THE NORTHERN PREFECTURES OF RUHENGERI AND BYUMBA AND IN
THE NORTHERN HALF OF THE AKAGERA NATIONAL GAME PARK.
OTHER MINES ARE NOT RECORDED, AS THEY WERE LAID UNDER
BATTLE CONDITIONS DURING A WITHDRAWAL.

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DISPLACED CIVILIANS INJURED IN RETURN TO MINED FARMLANDS

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5. SINCE THE SIGNING OF THE AUGUST 4 PEACE ACCORDS, MOST OF THE 600,000 DISPLACED PERSONS FROM THE DMZ HAVE RETURNED TO THEIR FARMLANDS WHERE LANDMINES STILL REMAIN UNCLEARED. UP TO 2,000 REFUGEES FROM UGANDA ALSO RECENTLY CROSSED THE UGANDAN BORDER INTO RWANDA TO SETTLE NEAR NYAGATARE, BETWEEN TWO KNOWN MINE FIELDS IN RPF CONTROLLED TERRITORY. PERSONS DISPLACED FROM THE RPF-HELD TERRITORY, CURRENTLY LIVING IN CAMPS AND RECEIVING HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE FROM INTERNATIONAL DONORS WILL RISK MINE INCIDENTS IF THEY TRY TO RETURN TO THEIR LAND BEFORE CLEARANCE IS COMPLETE.

6. OF THOSE WHO HAVE RETURNED TO THEIR FIELDS IN THE NORTH, THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR THE RED CROSS REPORTS THAT 40 CIVILIANS WERE SEVERELY INJURED AND 1 KILLED IN MINE INCIDENTS SINCE MARCH 1993 (AFTER THE END OF THE RPF-LAUNCHED FEBRUARY OFFENSIVE). FIGURES ARE NOT AVAILABLE FOR 1992. THE INJURIES RANGED FROM LOSS OF LIMBS TO SEVERE SCHRAPNEL WOUNDS. MOST OF THE INJURED WERE TREATED AT THE ICRC MOBILE MEDICAL UNITS LOCATED IN THE DMZ. THESE MEDICAL UNITS HAVE LIMITED STAFF AND MEDICINES BUT WERE SUCCESSFULLY ABLE TO TREAT THOSE WOUNDED BY MINE EXPLOSIONS. THE NUMBERS OF WOUNDED AND KILLED ARE EXPECTED TO INCREASE DRAMATICALLY IF REFUGEES FROM UGANDA FOLLOW THE LEAD OF THE FIRST GROUP OF SETTLERS AND RETURN TO RWANDAN SOIL BEFORE MINE CLEARING OPERATIONS HAVE BEGUN. THE DISPLACED RETURNING TO THE DMZ ARE LIKELY TO RUN A HIGH RISK OF INJURY OR DEATH AS WELL.

UNAMIR ASSISTS IN DEVELOPING GOR MINE CLEARANCE PROGRAM
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7. THE RWANDAN GOVERNMENT CURRENTLY HAS NO MINE REMOVAL/DESTRUCTION CAPABILITIES. THEREFORE, THE UNITED

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NATIONS MILITARY ASSISTANCE MISSION IN RWANDA (UNAMIR) HAS AS PART OF ITS MANDATE TO DEVELOP AND COORDINATE DEMINING OPERATIONS IN COUNTRY. ESSENTIALLY, UNAMIR PLANS TO TRAIN RWANDAS AND PROVIDE THEM WITH EQUIPMENT SO THAT THE COUNTRY WILL HAVE ITS OWN MINE CLEARANCE CAPABILITY AFTER THE UN TROOPS LEAVE.

8. UNAMIR HAS PROPOSED USING A CONTINGENT OF TROOPS FROM

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O 311450Z JAN 94
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AMEMBASSY KAMPALA
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
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GENEVA FOR RMA

E.O. 12356:N/A
TAGS: MCAP, PGOV, PREF, EAID, PREL, PINS, PARM, RW
SUBJECT: RWANDA'S LANDMINE PROBLEM

THE BANGLADESHI ENGINEERING BATTALION FOR MINE CLEARANCE
SUPERVISION OF RPF AND GOR MILITARY ENGINEERS. FOR
TRAINING THE BANGLADESHIS AND GOR/RPF MINE CLEARERS,
UNAMIR WILL HIRE A MINE CLEARANCE NGO OR CIVILIAN
CONTRACTOR (WHICHEVER IS MORE COST-EFFECTIVE). THE
CONTRACTORS WILL ALSO BE ASKED TO ASSIST IN DOING A MINE
SURVEY OF THE COUNTRY AND TO SUPERVISE MINE TRAINING AND
CLEARANCE ACTIVITIES.
UNAMIR NEEDS MINE DETECTION AND CLEARANCE EQUIPMENT

9. UNAMIR MINE EXPERTS TOLD ECONOFF THAT MOST MINE
CLEARANCE IN THE COUNTRY, ESPECIALLY ALONG ROADS, WILL
HAVE TO BE DONE CONVENTIONALLY, BY HAND, USING
ELECTRONIC MINE DETECTORS OR PRODDERS. FOR MINE
DETECTION AND REMOVAL IN THE TEA PLANTATIONS, UNAMIR
ENVISIONS THE USE OF DOGS FOR MINE DETECTION FOLLOWED BY
MINE DESTRUCTION OR REMOVAL WITH HEAVY DUTY MINE PLOWS
OR RAKES.

10. TO DO AN EFFECTIVE JOB, UNAMIR ESTIMATES IT WILL
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NEED AT LEAST 12 MINE DETECTORS (SENSITIVE ENOUGH FOR
THE MINES LAID IN RWANDA), 24 PRODDERS, 12 PLIERS/WIRE
CUTTERS, 12 SCREWDRIVERS, 24 TROWELS, AND AT LEAST 2
HEAVY DUTY MINE PLOWS OR RAKES. THE MINE CLEARING UNITS
WILL ALSO NEED MINE MARKING TAPE, AND LANE MARKERS FOR
MINEFIELD BREACHING. UNAMIR HAS NOT ESTIMATED YET HOW
MANY DOGS WILL BE NEEDED FOR CLEARING MINES FROM THE
TEA PLANTATIONS. CURRENTLY, UNAMIR ONLY HAS SIX GERMAN
MANUFACTURED MINE DETECTORS, WHICH THE BANGLADESHI
TROOPS SUPPLIED BUT ARE NOT TRAINED TO USE. UNAMIR HAS

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NOT TESTED THE SENSITIVITY OF THESE DETECTORS ON A
SAMPLE OF GOR/RPF MINES YET.

REQUEST FOR U.S. ASSISTANCE WITH EQUIPMENT AND TRAINING

11. THE TOTAL COSTS OF RWANDA'S MINE CLEARANCE PROGRAM
ARE BEING REEVALUATED. NO REALISTIC COST ESTIMATES ARE
CURRENTLY AVAILABLE BUT UNAMIR RECOGNIZES THAT IT WILL
NEED SIGNIFICANT ASSISTANCE FROM THE DONOR COMMUNITY TO
FULLY FUND THE MINE CLEARANCE PROGRAM. THEREFORE, BOTH
UNAMIR AND THE GOR HAVE ASKED ECONOFF ABOUT POSSIBLE
U.S. ASSISTANCE IN SUPPLYING MINE DETECTION EQUIPMENT -
BOTH HAND HELD AND HEAVY DUTY EQUIPMENT, MANUALS FOR U.S.
MANUFACTURED MINES, AND MINE AWARENESS TRAINERS FOR
CONDUCTING SHORT TERM CIVIC AWARENESS PROGRAMS. RAWSON

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